

SIDEWALK CPR DAY 2014

News Release



Contact:

Michael Wilson, EMS Agency
213-240-8059
micwilson@dhs.lacounty.gov



Contact:

Captain Tom Richards, LACoFD
(213) 247-8524
trichards@fire.lacounty.gov



Contact:

Kristine Kelly, AHA
(213) 291-7080
Kristine.kelly@heart.org

“Sidewalk CPR Day” Prepared 17,000 Southern Californians to Save A Life Using Hands-Only CPR

LOS ANGELES – June 25 – In one day, a record-breaking 17,000 Southern Californians spent just 10 minutes to learn Hands-Only CPR during free training held earlier this month during National CPR Week, including 7,200 in Los Angeles County.

The Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency coordinated the one-day training effort on June 5 with fire departments, ambulance companies, hospitals and nursing programs to increase cardiac arrest survivability. If it is provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, it can double or triple a victim’s chance of survival until emergency responders arrive.

EMT-certified trainers provided this easy instruction at shopping malls, grocery stores, home improvement stores, hospitals, community centers, colleges and other locations.

“This event is really growing. Our third-year results clearly show that our residents want to learn how to save someone someday,” says Cathy Chidester, director of the Los Angeles County EMS Agency. “An additional 10,000 residents from Ventura, Kern, Santa Barbara, Riverside and San Diego counties were also trained during this single-day event. For those who missed Sidewalk CPR Day, there will be lots of additional training events planned in local communities throughout the year.”

“When someone has a cardiac arrest, the first few minutes are critical,” says Los Angeles County Fire Chief Osby, who plans to launch a County-wide training program, CPR Anytime, in middle and high schools this fall. “Most bystanders are not sure what to do. Well, on Sidewalk CPR Day, we taught them what to do.”

Hands Only CPR is different from conventional “mouth-to-mouth” CPR, and anyone can learn how to do it. The Sidewalk CPR program is designed to give people basic skills to save that family member, friend, or person in need. To learn Hands-Only CPR, visit <http://www.heart.org/handsonlycpr> to watch an instructional video and share it with the important people in your life. # # #